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THE VICTORIA HOTEL

**RUSSELL SAGE.**

Like Midas, Everything the Financier Touched Became Gold. Lacking but a few days of 90 years of age, Russell Sage passed away at his summer home at Lawrence, Long Island. For two or three years his health had been falling, owing to his extreme age, and for half a year he had not been in his office but he confidently expected a summer in the country would restore him to vigor. So long as he retained consciousness he thought he was gaining in health and he planned on celebrating his birthday anniversary as usual. Death came quietly after a period of coma and was solely due to his accumulated years.

With the death of "Uncle Russell" Sage there passed away the greatest private money lender in the world, a man who for many years has had from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000 in cold cash constantly lent out at good interest, most of it on call loans. No other man in the world possessed as much cash capital as did he, but he also had great invested wealth, principally in railroads. It had been thought that his death would create a panic on Wall street, owing to the money he had loaned, but he considerably had made provision that in case of his death there should be no sudden call for the loans.

Russell Sage started out as a poor boy controlled by a dread of the poverty which he saw all about him and determined that he would become a rich man. Debt was a thing he abhorred, a weakness which he knew was the curse of men who otherwise would have been successful and happy. He early resolved to live well within his income, to save his money in times of prosperity so as to be always ready for those periods of sudden stress and adversity

which come to all men. From the first he was successful. He saved the first dollar he ever earned and early learned how to make his money work for him. He started when a boy on the hunt for gold and as long as life lasted he never gave up the chase. He never took a vacation because he felt that he could enjoy nothing so well as the constant accumulation of wealth. It was not the enjoyment of wealth and what it would procure for him, but the accumulation of the money, which kept him continually in the harness. He was as joyous over saving 5 cents at a lunch counter or in getting two years' wear out of a ready-made suit of clothes as other men would be over an European trip.



RUSSELL SAGE.

Russell Sage was born in the township of Verona, Onondaga County, N. Y., on August 4, 1816, his father having come to central New York in an ox wagon. When Russell was an infant the family moved to Durhamville, at the head of Onondaga Lake. Like his brothers, Russell left the farm at a very early age. He began trading in horses. Before he was 19 he had accumulated nearly \$2,000, then he left his brother's employ and opened a store for himself. This he sold at a profit and engaged in the shipping business. At the age of 22 he was worth \$25,000. At 28 he was sole proprietor of a wholesale grocery and commission business in Troy and was rated at \$300,000. He was elected alderman and was sent to Congress for one term.

In 1857, when 41 years old, he went to New York, seeking a wider field for his trading activities. He bought the La Crosse road, part of the Milwaukee & St. Paul system, for \$25,000, kept it six months and sold it for \$1,000,000. From that time forward he was a factor in Wall street, always looking for a sure thing and always getting it. For a time he and Jay Gould were closely associated. He never speculated, as that term is generally understood. He preferred to buy stocks outright, after studying them carefully; but he made most of his enormous fortune by loaning money. At his death his fortune was estimated at \$100,000,000.

Russell Sage had no hobbies. He cared nothing for the things that wealth could buy. Things that other millionaires are wont to spend their money on had no charms for him. He cared nothing for art, music, pictures, steam yachts, social entertainments or books of travel. As wealthy as Croesus, his tastes to the last remained as simple as those of a \$20 a week clerk who strives to live within his income. His business apparently absorbed his whole life. According to the popular estimate of him he represented the most perfect development of the money making machine in human form.

Russell Sage was twice married, but he had no children. His first wife was Miss Maria Winne, daughter of Moses I. Winne, of Troy. She died in New York in 1867. Two years later he married Miss Margaret Olivia Slocum, daughter of Joseph Slocum, a merchant of Syracuse.

His friends declared that of all the good bargains he had made in his life his marriage to this estimable woman was by long odds the best. What he lacked she possessed. Her charitable deeds were many. With her Mr. Sage's home life was a very happy one.

**EGYPT'S PEASANT WOMEN.**

English Government Taking Steps to Educate Them.

The peasant woman of Egypt, the poor, patient creature who through the weary length of centuries, through the vicissitudes and tragedies of dynasties, rulers and queens, remains, like the sphinx, unchanged, is presented to the public in the Fortnightly Review as the mother of rejuvenated Egypt, "the Egypt that will be born not bound, but free." Already one of her race—the beautiful Thewdda—has become mother of the Khedive, and from other peasant mothers, says the writer, Walter F. Merville, great sons are destined to be born.

At the present time, however, there appears to be few signs of greatness in the Egyptian daughter of the soil. Her very name, fellaha, means to plow or till, and from her earliest years she is accustomed to drudgery. "In the close season," says Mr. Merville, "peasant baby girls are posted as sentinels over the horses and cattle tethered in the vividly green barseem fields. Active little maidens carry diminutive hods or baskets of mortar or bricks when building operations are in progress, or are sent to destroy caterpillars when they threaten to destroy the crops. The bigger girls in time of wheat harvest join with the older women in field labor, which is very fatiguing. As a wife and mother the wearisome occupations of the peasant woman's day begins with her household duties, the washing, scouring, baking and cooking; then comes her modest marketing, and much time also is given to her dusky little cherubs, the children who, when small, tread only on her skirts, but who, when they come to man's estate, oft trample on her heart. In the intervals of housework there is even labor in the fields ready to her hand.

The fundamental fact that she is desirable solely on account of her sex is dimmed into the fellaha's ears from girlhood; her upbringing holds out to her no other goal than marriage; her brothers early learn a sensual attitude toward all womankind. From pecuniary necessity, a fellaha's means not permitting of his taking into himself many wives, polygamy does not obtain extensively among the peasantry, but the woman who falls to bear children is quickly 'put away,' for every adult male is expected to found a family, or, if not divorced, drinks to the dregs a very bitter cup. To politics she is a stranger and she meddles not even in village concerns which may affect her husband. She is not even expected to have any religion. Humbly in her soul under heaven's blue canopy she cannot bless Allah, the compassionate, the merciful, whose celestial breath she feels in the cool morning air, but religious duties are not obligatory for her as for men, and she may but rarely enter a mosque during the regular hours of prayer.

In conclusion, Mr. Merville says the British government is taking some steps by means of education to prepare the future mothers of Egypt for their enlarging responsibilities, and, considering the difficulties of the situation, has made encouraging progress.

**The Final Touch.**

It was known that Anabelle Hobbs had made a good match, from a worldly point of view; just how good, however, nobody in Hillville fully realized until the return of Anabelle's mother from a visit to the new home.

"I guess there's nothing Anabelle can't have if she takes the notion," said Mrs. Hobbs, with a sigh of satisfaction. "I tell her she'd ought to show reason, for of course Henry will get kind of wanted to her after a while, and not be quite so ready; but now he takes up with all her whims. What do you suppose his last gift was?"

The listener dared not venture a supposition. "I didn't imagine you would," said Mrs. Hobbs, with satisfaction. "Anabelle's always been set on onions ever since she was a child, but her pa and I never encouraged her in it, first because they smell so, and then, too, they cost considerable unless you raise them yourself."

"Well, Henry found out how fond she is of 'em, and he ordered a half-bushel to be there when they got back from the trip; and then when she told him my objections, and he knew I was coming, he bought a pint bottle of that new hyacinth perfume and put it in the guest-room for me."

"When I got it on, why, Anabelle might have eaten the whole o' that half-bushel of onions and I should never have known it. Here, you smell o' that handkerchief and you'll see I'm not speaking a word beyond the truth."

**They're Expensive.**

Youth—What do I have to pay for a marriage license?  
Clerk—Well, you get it on the installment plan.

Youth—How's that?  
Clerk—One dollar down and your entire salary each month for the rest of your life.—Cleveland Leader.

The greatest evil we know anything about in connection with canned meats is the pile of tin cans allowed to accumulate in the alley, and the big packers' trust can't be held responsible for that, can it?

When two big talkers are alone to gether they don't say much. Neither one is looking for a talker but a listener.

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